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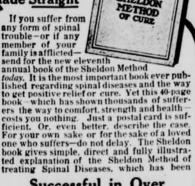


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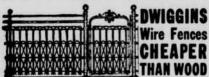
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THE HOUSEWIFE AND THE LAW

visé of the United States Consulate of the dis-trict in which that municipality is situated.

Now isn't Mrs. Quackenbos right in insisting that all the world's a neighborhood? Isn't it time we took the bandage off the eyes of international Justice, induced her to lay down her sword, get her mind off the thief and the jail, and become a kindly, intelligent mother? telligent mother?

I suppose it isn't quite fair in speaking of this new place which women are making for themselves in law to ignore the fact that the regular ranks of law are pretty crowded. The graduates of law schools fairly boil over the top of the community caldron. They are like too many carrots in a row,—they crowd and crush one another, and nobody grows very big. But the women who transplant themselves into new fields grow like everything, although most of them do start in the regular legal row. But doesn't it show some horticultural skill to know that the domestic field will grow law as well as music or teaching or child culture?

THE other day I burst in with this house-wife's idea of the law upon Miss Made-line Doty, a member of the New York bar, who is specially interested in the problem of the Children's Court. She put down a copy of "The New Machiavelli" with some re-

of "The New Machiavelli" with some re-luctance and said:

"You're right. We women do treat the law as an extension of housekeeping, a kind of outlet for our domestic instincts. We've gene to work as though the cities were our nomes and we were fixing them up. This sometimes does famou things to the law. A little thing happened in court the other day that shows the difference between a man's view and ours.

that shows the difference between a made view and ours

"Was there any case we should have treated differently?" said the Judge to a woman lawyer whom he had invited to sit with him that day.

"Not unless it was those twelve boys who were brought in and judged together," she asstrant.

"What! Those who were arrested for making a row in the subway? Why, I let them off easy enough,—they were fined only a dollar apiece."

"Easy enough—on the parents! But how could you tell that they were equally guilty, or that the one-dollar fine would do anything beyond satisfying the law? I don't see how paying a dollar could improve their home conditions. What is going to become of those boys?

"The suggestion struck the Judge as in-eresting," Miss Doty went on, "and he sked me to look those boys up. Three of asked me to look those boys up. Three of
the twelve proved to have bad records, were
deficient in their studies, unruly, and came
from bad homes. The other nine were just
average boys with fair records, who had
been led into a piece of exciting mischief.
No mother who was any kind of mother at
all would have treated those twelve boys
alike. They needed to be followed up, not
put off with a perfunctory fine. And yet the
Law had been perfectly satisfied!"
That method of the wise mother which
Miss Doty advocates is the one Judge Lind-

That method of the wise mother which Miss Doty advocates is the one Judge Lind-sey uses in Denver. That's why the men out there don't seem able to understand him. He wouldn't be holding his office now if it wasn't for the women who vote for him be-cause he is caring for the children in their way. Just now Miss Doty is working out a consistent scheme for the reorganization of all Children's Courts on the lines of house-

"Would any wise mother think of treating her naughty child like a criminal?" she de-manded indignantly. "Did your mother ever reprove you before a whole roomful of people?"

My mind went back to a dim parlor with My mind went back to a dim parlor with the blinds drawn, and a kind mother explaining that to pinch the governess and throw her gloves out of the window was not all that could be expected from me in the way of conduct. But these naughty children of the State are heard in a roomful of curious spectators; they are lifted up so that the finger of scorn may be pointed at them; any delicate sensibilities the delinquent child may have left are shocked out of him by the indignities of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the child's case away from prying eyes; to make him responsible to a probationary officer, a definite person whom he can see and touch instead of a vague, remote, intangible law that he can no more understand than he can the theory of permutations.

who was formulating a law to control the

night messenger service.

"But how can you call her a good lawyer?"
he cried. "She doesn't know any law. And
what she proposes will interfere with busi-

ness. "Perhaps so,

"Perhaps so," we answered; "but she knows what the law ought to be."

That's the whole aim of the woman in law: to show that "Law Makes Right" is a fallacy. Take the work Mrs. Florence Kelley is doing, for instance. She walks straight up to the Law and says:

"See here! You mean well, I suppose; but you've been dealing with inanimate things like property and precedents and contracts so long that you have gradually lost sight of human nature. Allow me to call your attention to a few little matters that we women have had occasion to learn inside our homes, which we think ought to enter into your deliberations."

I remember hearing her speak before the

our homes, which we think ought to enter into your deliberations."

I remember hearing her speak before the Board of Estimate when all the social workers of New York's East Side had risen to protest against an elevated road being put on Delancey-st., the one open space where real sunlight and real air could be had by the children of the tenements. We surged down to that hearing full of indignation, and some quoted points of law and some plead for mercy or tried to flatter the stolid board into benevolenee; some even represented the surging masses of the East Side as angrily plucking up that incipient elevated by the roots and dropping it into the East River. I remember watching one short legged bulging member of the board who presented the texture, contour, and color of a roast goose, and thinking how that hypothetical East Side mob would find him lusciously rich and toothsome.

toothsome.

toothsome.

But we didn't make any impression on the compacent board till Mrs. Kelley began to speak. Sne was a lawyer; but she didn't talk technical law—she talked sense and humanity. Not for a moment did she question the legal power of the board to put elevated roads wherever they happened to choose, nor did she entertain any illusions about the East Side making any protest so coheren as a mob; she simply pointed out that to have no place to play, and no air and no sunlight, was bad for children, casually reminded the board that these were facts they knew perfectly well, and that therefore they couldn't possibly do this thing, because it wasn't right. Her talk was like a cavalry charge, it even dented in the roast goose gentleman. There is no elevated on Degentleman. There is no elevated on De-lancey-st, today—and there never will be as long as there are women to keep watch:

LIKE many of the women who study law, Mrs. Kelley went into it not in search of a profession, but to get a special human thing done. She was factory inspector in Illinois, and brought to a county attorney a case where little girls were hired to work in poisonous gilding to the great injury of their health.

neatth.
Said the attorney, "Do you expect me to prosecute this case?"
"Yes. Here is the evidence."
"Why, I can't do that. I might have to turn round and prosecute Marshall Field next day! He employs a bunch of girls at the same thing." the same thing."
"Well, why should you not?" asked Mrs

And the district attorney intimated that anyone who knew so little of what it meant to interfere with business had no legal mind and was out of place consulting him. The next morning she began to study law for legal. herself.

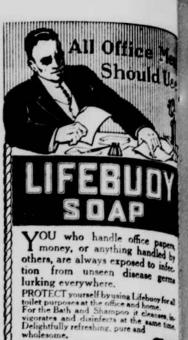
herself.

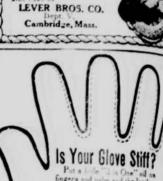
It was largely through Mrs. Kelley's influence that the most perfect example of the woman's legal point of view was embodied in legislation. In 1895 the Illinois law to limit woman's legal point of view was embodied as legislation. In 1895 the Illinois law to limit the hours of work for women was declared unconstitutional by the Illinois Supreme Court on the ground that it interfered with freedom of contract; that it was a woman's privilege to work as long as she chose.

"But," said the exasperated Mrs. Kelley in effect, "it's bad for women to work longer than the law and unhabitive for their

than eight hours, and unhealthy for the children—you know that." "Madam," replied the Law, "the fou-

may have left are shocked out of him by the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the midginites of the criminal courtroom. What women lawyers are trying to do is to get the child's case away from prying eyes; to make this first the child's case away from prophelics. And Mrs. Kelley inclinates and touch in responsible to a probationary officer, a definite person whom he can see and touch instead of a vague, remote, intangible law that he can no more understand than he can the thousened the child state the child scale the child's case away from prying eyes; to make the child scale the c





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